Akron Metropolitan Housing Authority

Akron, OH

University of Akron School of Law Clinic (partner)

Grant Amount: \$100,000 Contributed Match: \$174,115

One in six Ohioans has a criminal record. Those convictions carry significant collateral consequences – including the inability to find employment, obtain a professional license, pursue higher education or find housing. Ohio has compiled a survey of these consequences. To date, there are more than 800 collateral consequences mandated by Ohio law.

This grant will address these collateral consequences by building on the strong relationship that Akron Metropolitan Housing Authority (AMHA) has with the University of Akron School of Law (UA). The grant will allow UA to target youth with an expanded set of legal services to address the collateral consequences they face from their juvenile adjudications and criminal convictions. UA will be able to leverage law student resources, under the supervision of a full-time faculty member, to provide the needed services. This will include students enrolled in a credit Reentry Clinic and volunteer law students. Legal services will include juvenile and adult sealings, Certificates of Qualification for Employment (CQEs), child support modifications and driver's license reinstatement. All of these remedies are targeted to assist youth with finding employment and affordable housing.

The Juvenile Reentry Assistance Program (JRAP) seeks to alleviate collateral consequences associated with a juvenile or criminal record by assisting youth up to age 24 residing in public housing, or who would be residing in public housing but for their record, with—

- Expunging, Sealing, and/or Correcting Juvenile or Adult Records as permitted by State law (required services), and
- Coordinating Supportive Services to Assist Target Youth in Mitigating or Preventing Collateral Consequences (optional services), for example,
 - Reinstating revoked or suspended drivers' licenses,
 - Counseling regarding legal rights and obligations in searching for employment,
 - Providing guidance for readmission to school,
 - •Creating or modifying child support orders and other family law services, and more.

Funding for this program was made available from the U.S. Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention. HUD awarded approx. \$1.75M to 18 Public Housing Agencies and nonprofit legal partners in April 2016.

Juvenile Reentry Assistance Program

a collaboration between the
US. Department of Housing

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the U.S. Office of Juvenile
Justice & Delinquency
Prevention

